



Idaho State School and Hospital & Community Developmental Disabilities

Facility Changes and Budget Requests

ISSUE: The Department of Health and Welfare is requesting funds to make the following changes at Idaho State School and Hospital to better meet the needs of the current population, including fewer traditional residents with developmental disabilities and an increasing number of people with aggressive behaviors and dual diagnosis (developmental disabilities and mental illness):

- \$268,000 to demolish two old buildings that are no longer being used but are costly to maintain
- \$784,000 to convert one 20-bed newer building into a psychiatric facility for people who are dangerously mentally ill
- \$2,200,000 for two new complexes to house 16 people with developmental disabilities in “home-like” settings on the ISSH campus (these are the people who are being evacuated from the building that is being converted into a psychiatric facility)

The Governor has recommended all of these.

COUNCIL POSITION: The Council’s position is that, with the right supports, any person with a developmental disability can and should live in the community. Based on that position, the Council recommends the following:

- ✓ **support** demolition of old buildings which cost money and have no value
- ✓ **support** conversion of 1-2 of the newer buildings to psychiatric facilities, provided that security is adequate for others on the campus but not “prison-like”
- ✓ **oppose** construction of any new “home-like” buildings at ISSH and instead use the funds to improve and enhance services to allow people across Idaho to live in homes in their communities, through:
 - Expand crisis services (the current ISSH-based crisis team is booked 8-months out)
 - Train and compensate community providers to serve people with more intensive support needs
 - Work with existing residents and their families and guardians to transition to community settings that meet their needs (this process is already begun and should continue)

For more information, contact the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, 208-334-2178 or 1-800-544-2433.

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Dept. of Health & Welfare request



Recommendation by Governor



DD Council position



\$268,000 - demolish two old, unused buildings

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\$784,000 - convert one 20-bed newer building into a secure psychiatric facility

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\$784,000 - convert one 20-bed newer building into a secure – *but not “prison-like”* psychiatric facility

\$2,200,000 - build two (2) new complexes to house 16 people with developmental disabilities in “home-like” settings on the ISSH campus.

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(Part of the funds in Line Item 12.01, Capital Budget, page A-32 in Executive Budget Book)

\$2,200,000 – use these funds to improve and enhance services in communities across Idaho so people with developmental disabilities can **live in their own homes and get the services they need there.**

DO NOT build any new buildings on the ISSH campus

\$50,000 for staff training in working with people with dual diagnosis

No recommendation for training funds

\$50,000 to train staff in working with people with dual diagnosis.